

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, RO

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT

1. DEPARTMENT HAS DISCUSSED STATUS US-ROMANIAN CIVIL AVIATION RELATIONSHIP AND APPROPRIATENESS OF EXTENDING AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES OCTOBER 31, 1976 WITH PAN AM AND CAB.

2. USG IS NOT SATISFIED WITH CURRENT IMBALANCE OF ECONOMIC BENEFITS IN FAVOR OF TAROM BUT IS PREPARED TO EXTEND CURRENT AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT THROUGH MARCH 31, 1977 IN ORDER TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DESIGNATED AIRLINES TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS OF MEASURES TO REDRESS THE IMBALANCE. FYI: PAN AM HAS SUGGESTED USG REQUIRE ROMANIA TO ACCEPT GUARANTEED SALES LEVEL BY TAROM ON ITS BEHALF AS PRICE FOR EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT.

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DEPARTMENT RELUCTANT TO UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATION OF INTER-

GOVERNMENTAL ARRANGEMENT WITH ROMANIA AT THIS TIME BUT DOES SUPPORT PAN AM EFFORTS TO CONCLUDE MINIMUM SALES ARRANGEMENT WITH TAROM. END FYI.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO INFORM ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE ABOVE VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOLLOWING THESE LINES:

QUOTE:...REFERS TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ANNEX TO THE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. AFTER A CAREFUL REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CIVIL AVIATION RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS NOTED A CONSIDERABLE IMBALANCE OF ECONOMIC BENEFITS IN FAVOR OF THE ROMANIAN SIDE. THE US GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THE IMBALANCE IS PRIMARILY DUE TO INABILITY OF THE US DESIGNATED AIRLINE FULLY TO APPLY THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XIV OF THE AGREEMENT AND FINDS THE CONTINUATION OF THE CURRENT IMBALANCE UNDESIRABLE. THE US GOVERNMENT SUGGESTS THAT THE DESIGNATED AIRLINES OF BOTH COUNTRIES DISCUSS AT AN EARLY DATE MEASURES BY WHICH THE IMBALANCE CAN BE REDUCED. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TIME FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS, THE USG PROPOSES THAT THE CURRENT AGREEMENT BE EXTENDED THROUGH MARCH 31, 1977 BY AN EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES.

QUOTE IF THIS PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA AND A SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION TO THE ECONOMIC IMBALANCE IS ACHIEVED, THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH A DELEGATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA, IF NECESSARY, TO DEAL WITH THE EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT BEYOND MARCH 31, 1977.

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